

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-07 SS-20 STR-08

CEA-02 AGR-20 AEC-11 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-03

INT-08 L-03 PM-07 SAM-01 SCI-06 EUR-25 SWF-02 DRC-01

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R 261130Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EMIN, ENRG, ETRD

SUBJ: MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE, AND TOURISM DISCUSSES

SUGAR, OIL REFINERY, TEXTILES, BAUXITE, TRADE

DURING AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF INDUSTRY,  
COMMERCE, AND TOURISM, P.J. PATTERSON, LATER MADE THE FOLLOWING  
POINTS:

1. SUGAR: PATTERSON EXPRESSED HIS DISAPPOINTMENT THAT HOUSE HAD  
FAILED TO PASS LEGISLATION. GOJ HAD MADE CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO  
CHANGE PREVIOUS POLICY OF GIVING PRIORITY TO COMMONWEALTH. DESPITE  
EARLIER SHORTFALLS, CARICOM HAD SUCCESSFULLY SUPPLIED LARGE AMOUNT  
ON FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS THIS YEAR. HE WAS NOT CONCER-  
NED SO MUCH ABOUT THE NEXT FEW YEARS (BECAUSE OF THE  
PRESENT SHORTAGE AND HIGH WORLD PRICE), BUT FOR THE LONG TERM  
SINCE THE AREA NEEDED ASSURED MARKETS. FAILURE OF THE LEGISLATION  
ALSO INCREASED THE DIFFICULTY OF NEGOTIATING WITH THE EEC.

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2. LUANA OIL REFINERY PROJECT: THE INITIAL CONTACTS IN KUWAIT AND

SAUDI ARABIA REGARDING SUPPLIES HAD BEEN SATISFACTORY AND A FOLLOW UP TEAM LEFT TODAY FOR ADDITIONAL DISCUSSIONS. JAMAICA WAS A LOGICAL SITE FOR A REFINERY SINCE THERE WERE FOUR KNOWN LOCATIONS WHERE WATER MORE THAN 200 FEET DEEP EXISTED WITHIN 400 YARDS OF SHORE. THE REFINERY PROJECT ENVISAGED EXPORT SALES TO THE US, ESPECIALLY SINCE THERE APPEARED TO BE STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL OPP-  
POSITION TO ADDITIONAL REFINERY CAPACITY ON THE EASTERN SEABOARD, AND HE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THE AMBASSADOR AT A LATER DATE. A FERTILIZER COMPONENT IS DEFINITELY PLANNED AND ITS IMP-  
ORTANCE RECOGNIZED. PATTERSON ALSO INDICATED THE ITALIANS WERE STILL INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSAL ALTHOUGH TO WHAT EXTENT WAS NOT CLEAR.

3. TEXTILES: THE GOJ IS PREPARING FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US WHEN THE PRESENT BI-LATERAL AGREEMENT EXPIRES IN SEPT. HE HOPED TO NEGOTIATE MORE LIBERAL AND FLEXIBLE PROVISIONS WHICH WOULD BETTER REFLECT JAMAICA'S ACTUAL EXPORTS. THE AGREEMENT WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT SINCE THE GOJ PLANNED TO REVITALIZE THE LOCAL GARMENT INDUSTRY.

4. BAUXITE: THE MINISTER SAID HE WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT THE REVENUE ISSUE HAD NOT BEEN RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY THROUGH NEG-  
OTIATIONS. HE CONFIRMED THE IMPRESSION LEFT BY FINANCE MINISTER COORE AND OTHER THAT THE GOJ WAS PREPARED TO BE MORE FLEXIBLE IN ITS APPROACH ON THE REMAINING ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED WITH THE COMPANIES.

5. TRADE: AFTER INQUIRING ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE US TRADE BILL, PATTERSON SAID THE GOJ'S PRODUCT LIST WAS READY AND WOULD BE SUB-  
MITTED TODAY TO THE CARICOM SECRETARIAT WHICH HAD COO-  
RDINATION RESPONSIBILITY. REFERRING TO PREVIOUS REPRESENTATIONS DURING SECRETARY ROGER'S VISIT TO JAMAICA LAST YEAR, HE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE PRESENT ICT REGULATIONS AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THESE WERE BEING REVISED. THE GOJ WAS AWARE OF THE EFFECT OF CRIME ON THE TOURIST INDUSTRY AND MAKING A GREAT EFFORT TO COMBAT THE PROBLEM ALTHOUGH ADMITTEDLY THIS WAS A LONG TERM PROPOSITION.

COMMENT: THE MINISTER MADE CLEAR HIS AWARENESS OF THE LONG-TERM IMPORTANCE AND NECESSITY FOR JAMAICA OF CLOSE ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH THE US. AS WITH ALL THE MINISTERS I HAVE SEEN TO DATE, HE  
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REGRETS THE LACK OF AGREEMENT BY NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE COMP-  
ANIES AND THE GOJ ON THE BAUXITE TAXATION ISSUE BUT FEELS NO  
COMPUNCTION TO JUSTIFY THE UNILATERAL MEASURES TAKEN. THE ASSUMP-  
TION, WHICH PATTERSON ALSO REFLECTED, SEEMS TO BE THAT, INASMUCH  
AS USG WAS INFORMED BEFOREHAND OF GOJ INTENTIONS, WE CAN HAVE NO  
COMPLAINT, AND THAT IT WILL BE BUSINESS AS USUAL. I POINTED  
OUT, AS I HAVE WITH THE OTHERS, THAT THERE COULD BE UNFORSEEN  
FALL-OUTS.

GERARD

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## Message Attributes

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